(b) whether it is also a fact that the patients are being deprived of quality time in diagnosis, treatment and medical care in AIIMS due to acute shortage in the cadre of doctors and nurses; and

(c) if so, what measures Government propose to take to provide quality treatment to the patients in AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) All India Institute of Medical Sciences is providing every medical care to emergency or general ward patients who come for treatment at the AIIMS. The hospital provides round the clock emergency services and are manned by specialized doctors at the level of Senior Resident and Consultants. This emergency services is equipped with all the diagnostic and therapeutic facilities. The hospital has got best possible state of art diagnostic facilities. There are inbuilt practice for Infection control, review of cases of death and internal system of grievance redressal are some major steps for providing quality care to the patients who attend the AIIMS hospital. The Institute is maintaining the required number of doctors, nurses and other staff to maintain optimal level of patient care services. The Institute is also making efforts to increase the infrastructure facilities keeping in view the work load.

Rice scam in FCI

†*14. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a "rice scam" has been unearthed by the C.B.I. raids on the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no mechanism to stop corruption in FCI;

(c) whether Government would consider to conduct CBI inquiry into the role of all the higher officers of F.C.I. in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Enquiry by the FCI management and the Department of Food & Public Distribution into

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

alleged irregularities in the procurement of rice by FCI in Punjab during the Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05 were already underway when the CBI investigation into the same matter began in Sept. 2005. As a result of the enquiry by FCI management and the Department of Food & Public Distribution, action was initiated against the concerned oficers in the FCI.

(b) There is an elaborate mechanism in the FCI to take preventive and deterrent action against corrupt practices, besides well laid down procedures for every aspect of operational matters. Frequent surprise and periodical inspections are carried out at the FCI offices and Depots throughout the country. The irregularities noticed during these inspections are investigated thoroughly and penalties have been imposed on a large number of employee found guilty.

(c) and (d) In the allegations regarding procurement of sub-quality rice during KMS 2004-05 the CBI has already registered three First Information Reports against eighty-three FCI officers/official of Punjab Region, including the then Sr. Regional Manager, Punjab and the then Dy. General Manager (Quality Control) besides 330 private rice millers.

Economic cost of wheat and rice

†*15. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that economic cost of wheat and rice has risen during the last two years in the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the cost increase during the years 2004—2006;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Food Corporation of India has sold less quantity in 2005-06 in comparison to 2003-04 in the open market and under the Public Distribution System; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

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